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TO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 2052
INFO RUEHBC/REO BASRAH 2230

UNCLAS STATE 116664

## SIPDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR CROCKER FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY BAGHDAD PLEASE PASS TO MOSUL AND IRBIL

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: AMGT OVIP SUBJECT: THANK YOU

BEGIN TEXT:

## Ryan:

I found my visit to Iraq earlier this month extremely valuable. I continue to be impressed by the challenging work the Embassy and PRTs are doing, and the progress Iraq is making with Embassy and MNF-I assistance. Our visits to the market in Ramadi and the Provincial Council in Basrah were particularly impressive signs of improvements to the situation.

Please pass on my thanks to everyone at the Embassy for their efforts. My particular appreciation to you and Greg D'Elia, Joe Farrelly, Marco Ayub and his security team, and the residence staff, for an excellent job taking good care of me.

Again, my thanks, John RICE